

CLAIMS

1. A method of managing downlink data transfers between a radio access network (BSS) of a packet-switched communications network and mobile stations (MS-k),
5 characterized in that, in the event of a request for downlink data transfer to a mobile station (MS-k), it consists in sending a link set-up request to said mobile station by means of the radio access network (BSS) and, on reception by said radio access network (BSS) of a
10 response to said request sent by the mobile station (MS-k), setting up a downlink access to send the data to said mobile station (MS-k).
2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that
15 said link set-up request requires said mobile station (MS-k) to send said radio access network (BSS) an uplink access request and, on receipt of said request, network resources for setting up said uplink access are assigned so that said mobile station (MS-k) can send said response
20 to the link set-up request over that uplink access.
3. A method according to claim 2, characterized in that said uplink access request includes a reference identifier recognizable by said mobile station (MS-k)
25 and, on receipt of the uplink access request, said reference identifier is extracted in order to set up said uplink access.
4. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3,
30 characterized in that said response includes a call identifier of the mobile station, known to said network, and, on receipt of said response, said call identifier is extracted in order to set up said downlink access.
- 35 5. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that said link set-up request is generated by said radio access network (BSS).

6. A system (D) for managing downlink data transfers between a radio access network (BSS) of a packet-switched communications network and mobile stations (MS-k),
5 characterized in that it comprises management means (M) adapted, on receiving a request for downlink data transfer to a mobile station (MS-k), to instruct sending of a link set-up request to said mobile station by means of said radio access network (BSS), followed by setting
10 up a downlink access after the reception of a response to that request from said mobile station (MS-k).

7. A system according to claim 6, characterized in that said management means (M) are adapted to instruct said
15 radio access network (BSS) to send a link set-up request that requests said mobile station (MS-k) to send said radio access network (BSS) an uplink access request so that on receipt of said request said radio access network (BSS) is able to assign network resources for setting up
20 said uplink access enabling said mobile station (MS-k) to send said response to the link set-up request.

8. An equipment (BSC) of a radio access network (BSS) of a packet-switched communications network, characterized
25 in that it includes a system (D) according to either claim 6 or claim 7.

9. An equipment according to claim 8, characterized in that it is adapted, when said uplink access request
30 includes a reference identifier recognizable by said mobile station (MS-k), to extract said reference identifier from the received uplink access request in order to set up said uplink access.

35 10. An equipment according to either claim 8 or claim 9, characterized in that it is adapted, when said response includes a call identifier of the mobile station (MS-k)

known to said communications network, to extract the call identifier from said response in order to set up said downlink access.

5 11. An equipment according to any one of claims 8 to 10, characterized in that it takes the form of a base station controller (BSC).

10 12. An equipment according to any one of claims 8 to 10, characterized in that it takes the form of a packet transfer control unit.

15 13. A radio access network (BSS) of a packet-switched communications network, characterized in that it includes an equipment (BSC) according to any one of claims 8 to 12.